CLAIMS

1. A *H. pylori* protein or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof capable of inhibiting the activation of NF-κB.

2. A *H. pylori* protein as claimed in claim 1 wherein the protein is a thioredoxin or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof.

3. A *H. pylori* protein as claimed in claim 1 wherein the protein has the following amino acid sequence:

MSHYIELTEE NFESTIKKGV ALVDFWAPWC GPCKMLSPVI
DELASEYEGK AKICKVNTDE QEELSAKFGI RSIPTLLFTK
DGEVVHQLVG VQTKVALKEQ LNKLLG

4. A thioredoxin or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof containing the redox active peptide sequence CGPC.

5. Prokaryotic or eukaryotic thioredoxins having potent immune-suppressive effects.

6. Polypeptides containing the redox active peptide sequence CGPC.

7. A *H. pylori* protein having the following amino acid sequence:

MSHYIELTEE NFESTIKKGV ALVDFWAPWC GPCKMLSPVI
DELASEYEGK AKICKVNTDE QEELSAKFGI RSIPTLLFTK
DGEVVHQLVG VQTKVALKEQ LNKLLG

8. A derivative or fragment or mutant or variant of the protein of claim 7.

9. Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 1 in the prevention and/or treatment of inflammation.

10. Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 9 in the prevention and/or treatment of inflammatory bowel disease.

11. Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 9 in the prevention and/or treatment of rheumatoid/autoimmune arthritis.

12. Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or variant thereof as claimed in claim 9 in the prevention and/or treatment of any chronic disease wherein NF-κB is transcriptionally activated.

13. Use as claimed in claim 11 for the prevention and/or treatment of any one or more of autoimmune arthritis or other autoimmune diseases, asthma, septic shock, lung fibrosis, glomerulonephritis, atherosclerosis or autoimmune encephalomyelitis.

14. Use of a *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof as claimed in any preceding claim in soft tissue injury.

15. A *H. pylori* thioredoxin protein or derivative or fragment or mutant or variant thereof as claimed in claim 1 for use in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of any chronic disease wherein NF-κB is transcriptionally activated.

16. A protein as claimed in claim 1 for use in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of any chronic disease wherein NF-κB is transcriptionally activated.

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